

Before the
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Holland Post Office
Holland, Iowa

Docket No. A2012-66

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSE TO
POSTAL SERVICE NOTICE OF FILING
CORRECTED ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD
(February 7, 2012)

On January 24, 2012, the Public Representative filed comments in this proceeding noting that the Postal Service did not submit a complete copy of the Administrative Record because it did not include the returned customer questionnaires and Postal Service response letters (Questionnaires).¹ On February 6, 2012, the Postal Service filed the complete Administrative Record that included the Questionnaires.²

The Public Representative has reviewed the Questionnaires and concludes that none of the concerns expressed in them justifies remanding the Final Determination. Indeed, the questionnaires indicate that many Holland residents travel to the Grundy Center community, where the replacement post office is located, for shopping or when traveling to or from work. This indicates that many Holland customers will not have to travel out of their way to obtain postal services.

However, the Postal Service's late filing of the complete Administrative Record may be cause for remanding the Final Determination. The Postal Service filed the questionnaires after the deadline set forth in the procedural schedule for both the Participant Statement and

¹ Public Representative Comments, January 24, 2012, at 1.

² The Questionnaires are included as part of the corrected Administrative Record attached to the United States Postal Service Notice of Filing Corrected Administrative Record—Errata, February 6, 2012.

reply briefs.³ As a result, Petitioner filed his participant statement without having the opportunity to review the Questionnaires.⁴

The Public Representative notes that the Participant Statement is identical to the Petition and primarily raises issues about economic savings. Thus, Petitioner may have submitted the same filings even if he had reviewed the Questionnaires beforehand. However, to ensure fairness, the Public Representative recommends that the Commission provide Petitioner with an opportunity to revise or supplement his Participant Statement in light of the Questionnaires.

Respectfully submitted,

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³ See Order No. 1008, Notice and Order Accepting Appeal and Establishing Procedural Schedule, November 30, 2011, at 5.

⁴ Participant Statement Received from Gary W. Stoehr, Jr., December 27, 2011 (Participant Statement).